CLAIMS

1. An impact cushion for a forklift truck of the type having a pair of L-shaped lifting bars that together form a fork, each said lifting bars having a horizontal lifting arm that is used to move beneath an object to be lifted and an upright support arm that is connected to the truck for being moved vertically by the truck, said impact cushion applied to said upright support arm, said cushion comprising:

a load engaging surface,

a mounting surface opposite said load engaging surface for connection to the upright support arm of an L-shaped lifting bar,

adhesive applied to said mounting surface of said cushion, and

protective peel away sheet material applied to the adhesive,

so that the sheet material can be removed from the mounting surface of the cushion and the mounting surface applied to the upright mounting arm of the lifting bar and the parallel flanges straddle the upright mounting arm of the lifting bar.

2. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion is monolithic.

3. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion is formed of rubber.

4. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion has a bottom surface and a bevel extending between said bottom surface and said mounting surface to accommodate the shape of the intersection between the horizontal lifting arm and the upright support arm of an L-shaped lifting bar.

5. The impact cushion of claim 1 and wherein said load engaging surface is semi-cylindrical.

6. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said mounting surface is flat, and said load engaging surface includes a flat surface parallel to said mounting surface.

7. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion is formed of styrene butadiene.

8. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion is formed of particulate rubber of a screen mesh from minus 16 and plus 40, and from 5% to 20% by weight binder.

9. The impact cushion of claim 1, wherein said cushion further includes parallel flanges straddling said mounting surface for positioning on opposite sides of the upright mounting arm of an L-shaped lifting bar.

10. The impact cushion of claim9, and further including straps extending about the load engaging surface and the parallel flanges of the cushions and about the upright support arms configured to hold the cushions in place on the upright support arms.

11. An impact cushion for a forklift truck, the fork lift truck having a pair of lifting bars for lifting and transporting loads, the lifting bars each including a horizontal lifting arm that is used to move beneath an object to be lifted and an upright support arm that is connected to the truck for being moved vertically by the truck, said impact cushion comprising:

a molded monolithic body including:

a semi cylindrical load engaging surface,

an elongated flat mounting surface opposite said load engaging surface of a breadth that matches the breadth of the upright support arm of the fork lift truck for mounting said body to the upright support arm and orienting said semi-cylindrical load engaging surface over the horizontal lifting bars,

a bottom surface for engagement with and resting on the horizontal lifting arm,

and

means holding said mounting surface of said cushion in alignment with the upright support arm of said L-shaped lifting bar with the bottom surface of said cushion in engagement with the horizontal lifting arm,

so that the impact cushion is positioned to absorb impacts from pallets and from loads to be carried by the lifting bars.

12. The combination of claim 11, wherein said means holding said mounting surface of said cushion in alignment with the upright support arm comprises parallel flanges straddling said mounting surface for positioning on opposite sides of one of said upright mounting arms of one of said L-shaped lifting bars.

13. The combination of claim 11, wherein said impact cushions each include a lower surface extending between said impact surface and said mounting surface, said lower surface configured for resting on the horizontal lifting arm of the lifting bar.

14. The combination of claim 11, wherein said cushions are each formed of particulate recycled rubber of screen meshes of minus 16, plus 40, and formed in a monolith with from 5% to 20% binder.

15. The combination of claim 11, wherein said load engaging surface of at least one of said cushions is semi-cylindrical.

16. The combination of claim 11, wherein said load engaging surface of at least one of said cushions is flat and parallel to said mounting surface for flat engagement with a load carried by the fork lift truck.